

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOUSE BILL 10

47TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2005

INTRODUCED BY

Ben Lujan

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS; CREATING A FUND TO REIMBURSE GROUP LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS PAID BY MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE. --

A. The legislature finds that:

(1) the New Mexico national guard has a proud tradition of military service with thousands of New Mexicans having answered the call of the nation and served in the national guard;

(2) there have been instances in which the dependents of members of the New Mexico national guard have been left without adequate financial resources when a national

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 guard member has been killed while on active duty;

2 (3) members of the New Mexico national guard
3 are now being asked to serve extended periods of active duty in
4 combat areas;

5 (4) members of the New Mexico national guard
6 are eligible for life insurance policies with limits up to two
7 hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) through the federal
8 servicemembers' group life insurance program; and

9 (5) members of the New Mexico national guard
10 provide New Mexico and its citizens valuable benefits through
11 their service inside this state and through their recently
12 extended periods of active duty in combat areas outside of New
13 Mexico, and in exchange for these extended periods of active
14 duty they should receive assistance with their premiums for the
15 federal servicemembers' group life insurance program.

16 B. The purpose of creating and funding the service
17 members' life insurance reimbursement fund is to provide a
18 benefit to members of the New Mexico national guard in exchange
19 for and in recognition of their assumption of extended periods
20 of active duty in combat areas, in addition to their increased
21 contributions to the safety and welfare of the citizens of the
22 state of New Mexico.

23 Section 2. SERVICE MEMBERS' LIFE INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT
24 FUND CREATED--PURPOSE--APPROPRIATION. --

25 A. The "service members' life insurance

. 153857. 1GR

underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

1 reimbursement fund" is created in the state treasury. The fund
2 shall consist of legislative appropriations to the fund; gifts,
3 grants, donations and bequests to the fund; and income from
4 investment of the fund. Expenditures from the fund shall be
5 made on warrants drawn by the secretary of finance and
6 administration signed by the adjutant general of the department
7 of military affairs or the adjutant general's authorized
8 representative.

9 B. The fund shall be administered by the department
10 of military affairs, and money in the fund is appropriated to
11 the department of military affairs for the purpose of
12 reimbursing eligible members of the New Mexico national guard
13 for premiums paid for benefits under the servicemembers' group
14 life insurance program pursuant to 38 U.S.C Section 1965 et
15 seq., as amended.

16 C. The department of military affairs shall adopt
17 rules necessary to determine eligibility for reimbursement from
18 the service members' life insurance reimbursement fund and to
19 implement a reimbursement program.

20 D. Nothing in this section is intended to alter,
21 amend or change the eligibility or applicability of the
22 servicemembers' group life insurance program pursuant to 38
23 U.S.C. Section 1965 et seq., as amended, or any rights,
24 responsibilities or benefits thereunder.

25 Section 3. APPROPRIATION.--One million dollars

. 153857. 1GR

1 (\$1,000,000) is appropriated from the general fund to the
2 service members' life insurance reimbursement fund for
3 expenditure in fiscal years 2005 and 2006 to pay premium
4 reimbursements pursuant to the provisions of this act. Any
5 unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of
6 fiscal year 2006 shall revert to the general fund.

7 Section 4. APPLICABILITY.--The provisions of this act
8 apply to premiums paid on or after the effective date of this
9 act.

10 Section 5. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public
11 peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

12 - 4 -
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25